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May 4, 2011

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and Congressmen Charles F. Bass (R-NH-02) and Frank Guinta (R-NH-01) today announced the formation of a delegation working group that will meet on a regular basis in Washington when Congress is in session. Bass will chair the group this year and Shaheen will chair the group in 2012.

The State of New Hampshire does not have a Washington office like other larger states. The working group provides the framework for the four members of the New Hampshire Congressional Delegation to address issues or projects affecting New Hampshire in a formal and unified manner.

"Governing calls for us to work together. From fighting for funding for New Hampshire National Guard programs to assisting constituents with trade disputes, I am proud of the work our delegation has done to benefit New Hampshire residents," **Shaheen** said. "Our state has a strong tradition of working across the aisle and I look forward to continuing that bipartisanship with my Granite State colleagues."

"New Hampshire citizens expect their elected officials to work together to deliver results," said **Ayotte**. "We recognize the value of working together on behalf of Granite Staters, and this group reflects that commitment."

Bass said, "This group will give the four of us an opportunity to come together on a regular basis and seek ways to work as a team on issues affecting New Hampshire. Problem-solving isn't and shouldn't be partisan; it's about how we can best work together for the benefit of the Granite State."

Guinta said, "New Hampshire is a small state, but we can have a big voice when our delegation works as a team on the issues that matter to Granite Staters. The four of us are united by a common goal of delivering results for the people of New Hampshire. As long as we stay focused on honoring the people's will, we can achieve more by working together than we can by working separately."

Shaheen and Ayotte are the first bipartisan, all-female delegation in the history of the U.S. Senate.

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